

REMARKS

This responds to the Office Action mailed on May 18, 2005, and the references cited therewith.

Claim 12 is amended, no claims are canceled, and no claims are added; as a result, claims 1-36 are now pending in this application.

§102 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 12, 14, 20, 28, 32-33 and 36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) for anticipation by Lei Tang (Method for Encrypting and Decrypting MPEG Video Data Efficiently) recited in the IDS, paper number 4 by Applicant.

§103 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 13, 15-17, 19, 22-23 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lei Tang (Method for Encrypting and Decrypting MPEG Video Data Efficiently) recited in the IDS, paper number 4 by Applicant, in view of Rhoads (U.S. 6,567,533 B1).

Claim 12

Claim 12 has been amended by cancelling amendments made earlier during the prosecution, and by inserting the feature of means for receiving information on the entropy distribution of the information signal and providing, in dependence on the information on the entropy distribution, information controlling the scrambling of the information signal. Basis for the latter-mentioned amendment is to be found on page 3, lines 14-17 and page 5, lines 1-3.

Novelty

The subject-matter of claim 12 is novel compared with the article by Tang *et al.* (hereinafter: D1), because D1 does not disclose providing, in dependence on the information on the entropy distribution, information controlling the scrambling of the information signal, such that the means for scrambling provide a scrambled information signal having an entropy distribution corresponding with the entropy distribution of the information signal. Instead, D1 discloses a

system in which a random permutation list maps an 8×8 block of DCT coefficients to a 1×64 vector, which is entropy coded (see page 223, second paragraph in the right-hand column and page 224, right-hand column, step 3). If one were to regard the DCT coefficients as the information signal, as the Office Action appears to have done, then the Huffman coded signal does not provide a scrambled information signal having an entropy distribution corresponding therewith. The point of Huffman coding is to reduce the entropy, as is pointed out in pages of "Techniques and Standards for Image, Video, and Audio Coding (K. R. Rao and J.J. Wang), a copy of which is filed in an Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith. If one were to regard the frame prior to the DCT as the information signal, then D1 does not disclose controlling the scrambling in dependence on the information on the entropy distribution, since the DCT coefficients are not used to control either the shuffling thereof, or the Huffman coding process. Rather, they are the input to the shuffling and entropy coding processes.

It is thus submitted that claim 12 is allowable. As claims 13, 26-29, 36 are dependent upon claim 12, they are also allowable. Claim 31 includes the limitation of claim 12 and is thus also allowable.

Claim 14

Novelty

The subject-matter of claim 14 is novel because D1 does not disclose means for combining the descrambling and scrambled information signals to obtain the information signal, nor for that matter a scrambled information signal obtainable by combining a scrambling signal with the information signal. The permutation matrix used as a template for mapping an 8×8 block of DCT coefficients to a 1×64 vector is not combined with the DCT coefficients. Huffman coding involves the replacement of values by values from a code book, not the combination of values with those from another signal. Moreover, D1 discloses no means for generating a scrambling signal under the control of information representative of the entropy distribution of the information signal. A Huffman encoded signal is not scrambled, since the decoding does not require a secret, but the correct code book. The permutation matrix disclosed in D1 is not

generated under the control of information representative of the entropy distribution of any signal to be scrambled.

It is thus submitted that claim 14 is allowable. As claims 15-25 and 30 are dependent upon claim 14 they are also allowable.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-11 and 34-35 were allowed.

Claims 18, 21, 26, 27, and 30-31 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney at 408-278-4041 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

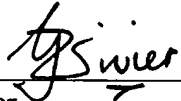
Respectfully submitted,

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By their Representatives,

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Date 9/15/05

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